

MONTEREY NEWS

September 1982



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING IN AUGUST

A goodly amount of people convened at a Special Town Meeting August 24 to vote on six budget items and to adopt a new zoning by-law prepared by the Planning Board. A rundown on the bylaw changes may be found on page 10 in the Planning Board Report. Discussion and decisions on budget items were as follows:

A question was raised as to why \$20,000 was being appropriated at a late summer meeting after the yearly budget had been voted on in early spring. Assessor Cynthia Weber, Finance Committee Chairman Ray Ward and Selectman Stefan Grotz provided a collective answer. The budget is planned in March and voted on in May. The state budget comes in afterward in July or August. It is impossible to have all financial data assembled for the spring meeting. Traditionally Monterey's budget is laid out very conservatively. This year, after the state figures came in, it became clear that the amount of money Monterey could appropriate was considerably more than had been voted into the original budget. Several boards concerned with town money met at this point and agreed that, as Stefan Grotz put it, "it is advantageous from the point of view of municipal planning" to spend up to 30,000 more dollars. The town is limited to a 2½% increase each year over what it has raised the year before. Therefore a policy of generous tailoring now provides for fluctuation in spending during successive years.

The following appropriations were authorized by vote: (1) \$2,475.62 for unpaid bills, (2) \$2,000 for a new compactor for the Town Shed, (3) \$5,700 for a chain link fence and grass seed for the new Disposal Area, (4) \$1,300 for a new typewriter for Judy Kales, a map case for the Assessor's Office, and a file cabinet for the Treasurer, (5) \$8,524.38 for the Stabilization Fund, and (6) authorization for the Selectmen to enter into a five-year contract with Berkshire Clean Way Rubbish Removal, Inc., for a total of \$133,980.

Although the authorization to enter the contract was approved, the newly installed compactor brought objections from several quarters. So far the Town has had problems with the absence of personnel, the lack of gates promised by Berkshire Clean Way, and a delay in electrification of the operation which has necessitated the temporary use of an obtrusive diesel pump. Voters were assured that the contract, once established, would be enforced to assure satisfactory service by the compactor. Meanwhile, no bills have been paid by the Town to Berkshire Clean Way.

N-WASTE INITIATIVE IS BALLOT QUESTION #3

A binding initiative on the November ballot requiring voter approval of new nuclear facilities has been designated "Question #3" by Secretary of State Michael Joseph Connolly.

The proposed law, placed on the ballot by over 100,000 certified voter signatures, requires certain environmental and economic safeguards, and approval at a statewide election, before any "low-level" nuclear waste facility or new nuclear power plant can be built in Massachusetts. The proposal would not apply to facilities constructed specifically for the disposal of hospital or bio-medical research wastes.

The petition drive was captained by the Massachusetts Nuclear Referendum Campaign, with over 4,000 volunteers throughout the state. The statewide organization will now work toward a "YES" vote on Question #3 at the November election.



MONTEREY ENERGY PROJECT REPORT

When the drawing for the quilt was held at the Gravity Car Race on Sunday, September 5, there were many disappointed faces. To make it even harder — no one knew the winner, Ann Smith of Longmeadow. I guess we were hoping it would be someone here in town. After making the telephone call and talking to Ann's relatives in Longmeadow, a beautiful story evolved.

The Burns (her maiden name) family have had a place in Monterey since the 1950s. Ann has spent most of her summers in town and was lifeguard at the beach about four years ago. She is now married, has two small children and is living in Wyoming. Her greatest desire for the summer was to be here for "I Love Monterey" Day, which is where she bought five tickets for the raffle, saying to Leslie Scutellaro, "I'm going to win, so you don't need to sell any more." She was right, except that the Energy Project needed to make more on the raffle, the total being about \$450. We thank everyone who helped.

To Ann Smith we say: Since you love Monterey so much we are very glad you won the quilt. It will be a constant reminder of the people and places that are so important to you. Our love and warmth comes with the quilt.

— Milly Walsh

OUR CHURCHES



CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Immaculate Conception, Mill River

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with child-care at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal, Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., at the Church. Meditation and prayer, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., in the Social Room. All are invited. Prayer group, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m., at the home of Lucy Smith.

CHURCH NEWS

Inquirer's Classes Begin in October

An adult Inquirer's Class is scheduled to begin early in October. The beginning date will be set after a number of interested participants have helped in selecting a suitable time. The class is for all persons who wish to consider becoming members of the Monterey United Church of Christ.

The class members will help in determining the areas that will be most helpful. In general such classes enable the participants to develop a more intimate quality of sharing and fellowship at the same time they are examining issues of faith and practice. Anyone interested in participating in this class is asked to call the minister, the Rev. Dr. Virgil V. Brallier, 528-1031.

Finance Campaign Proceeding

The Monterey Church makes its financial appeal in the summer in order to enable the greatest number of people to participate in the endeavor. As this copy of the *Monterey News* is being compiled, the results of the stewardship emphasis is being noted and compared.

There is a good response coming in from both the church and community. It is too early to give clear indications yet, but it does appear that a good number are recognizing the need for increases in giving over last year. If this trend continues it is expected that an adequate

undergirding will be provided to support a strong program next year.

CREATIVE EXPRESSION THROUGH PAINTING

There is movement in painting - colors blend and form images - and in Creative Expression you can explore your imagination with the motions of colors and brush. A white vulnerable background becomes the focal point. Beginning with concentration and patience the paper is then filled with images and colors - expressing your moods and feelings.

The work takes place in a studio setting with a rich spectrum of colors and brushes. Classes and workshops are limited to twelve to allow individual attention to each person. No prior experience in painting is necessary. All materials are supplied.

classes held in Monterey studio

Wednesdays:

September 22nd - October 27th

6 wk. session \$48.00

individual class \$10.00

contact: Joni Frankel 528-1623

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COURAGE ON THE LONG ROAD TOWARD UNITY

More than one person has observed that the road toward unity is not easy. Why did anyone ever believe it would be? Because unity among the world's people is desirable, do we have any reason to think it can come easily? Rather, all who work to bring healing to the wounds of division are well advised that they are traveling a long and arduous road and surely there will be many difficult passages on the way.

The reason for this is not hard to find. We are much more familiar with the language of hostility than we are with the language of love. Many are the persons who spend hours talking about hurts and injuries they have suffered. They can detail the divisions that exist and the alienations they have experienced. They may indicate all the while their desire for love and understanding. Yet bring many of these same persons into an atmosphere of deep loving and true caring and they become as nervous as a cat on a hot tin roof. The truth becomes evident that though they dream of love and understanding, they really aren't prepared to deal with it when it comes. Their much greater ease at handling the language of hostility rather than the language of love tells the true story.

Unity, love, accord, these are all areas that frequently are handled romantically. Since they are desirable qualities there is a tendency to hope they will come if we wish for them enough. Yet unless the wishing, longing has its feet truly on the ground it may hinder rather than help the cause.

If I were making a plea — and maybe I am — it would be that those who seek to bring light and healing to the world would not underestimate the cost. Advances come not by sporadic wishing and trying, but rather by a steady, consistent commitment. When we are involved in bringing a higher level of consciousness into the life-stream we do it by a day in-day out commitment to that cause.

So we long for a world in which unity will more and more prevail. Let us not deceive ourselves at the true cost of being a part of the movement toward unity and good will. The primary stance of our world up to this point has been fear of those who differ from us, distrust of those in unfamiliar cultures, seeking security by winning over others. That deeply ingrained pattern is not going to disappear with a few sentimental pleas. It will change under the steady, persistent impact of more and more people who are learning to travel the long road of unity with courage.

Humanity has made significant steps toward unity in its smaller units. Some families, some communities, some nations have learned the values of trust and cooperation. But these are values achieved only by loosening our grip on the patterns created by fear and hostility. If we can travel with hope, seeing that we are only in the early stages of learning how to deepen the bonds of trust, then we will demonstrate that we have the courage to travel the long road toward unity. By each of us recognizing the reality of the way social change comes in this lumbering

world, more and more persons will gain the persistence and the courage to travel the long road toward unity. Overcoming discouragement is essential. Discouragement takes energy away from the task. Periods of discouragement tend to make us take potshots toward unity. But potshots never take us any real distance down the road.

Sometimes events themselves provide enormous thrust to help us take the next steps. The world is now poised with all the possibilities in place for its own destruction. This is very real. None of us can ignore the likely consequences if we continue to put our primary energies into the way of fear and hostility. This fact alone is starting to turn many people around. Unfortunately, if all this generates in us is more fear, it will give us little mileage down the long road toward unity. But hope and courage and a steady persistence will. My hope is that from these words just a few more persons will determine to shift their weight toward being willing day-by-day to travel this long road and they will do so with a true spirit of hope. That will make a difference.

— Virgil V. Brallier, Minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

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YOUTH NEWS

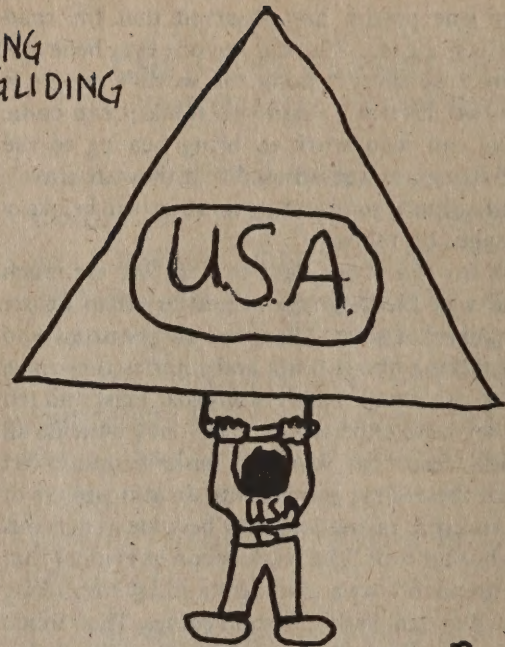
Announcement!

Brownie Troop 237 will begin their meetings on September 15, from 3-4 p.m. in the library basement with their new leader Cathy Rodgers.

And the Junior Troop, with Linda Whitbeck, will be starting their meetings on September 21, same time and place!

And it's welcome to all girls!

HANG
GLIDING



Jim Decker
Mt. Everett School



NANCY KALODNER
- BROKER -

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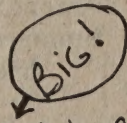
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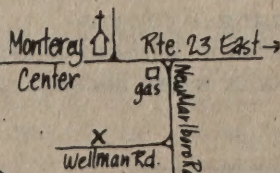
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FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

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our own lettuce, tomatoes, spinach
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SWEET CORN for ANOTHER WEEK



Also a selection of
delicious ripe fruit.



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ROADSIDE STORE

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE WE SHALL BE DOING MAJOR WORK ON THE ROADSIDE STORE THIS MONTH. WE ARE SURE YOU'LL ENJOY THE IMPROVEMENTS. PLEASE NOTE IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR US TO CLOSE THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY
SEVEN DAYS
A WEEK



FULL BREAKFAST
AND LUNCHES
GROCERY ITEMS
GASOLINE

nina

MONTEREY GRANGE COMMUNITY CITIZEN AWARD, 1982

The Monterey Fire Department is a volunteer company with more than twenty members. All have had "First Responder" training. In addition, the department has sponsored five of its men and one woman in training as Emergency Medical Technicians including extrication techniques for victims of auto accidents.

Members are required to attend weekly meetings, which alternate between business and training sessions, and they respond not only to fire calls but also to vehicle accidents and medical emergencies. By organization and training they have established a response time that rivals that of full-time departments.

Their major equipment is provided by Town appropriation and is maintained in spotless appearance and perfect working order. The members have used their modest annual stipends and money raised by their annual steak roast and the annual gravity car race to support their training program and to add to their equipment. Tied in by radio to the communication center in Great Barrington, the members can respond immediately to any emergency and give mutual aid to other towns when needed. Their average response in 1981 was 15 persons.

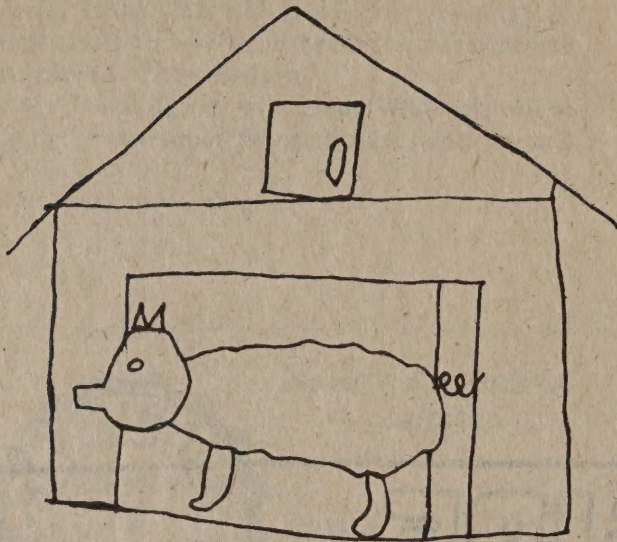
In modernizing its equipment and intensifying its training to serve the community more effectively, the department has outgrown the small firehouse provided by the Town, and, not wanting to put an additional burden on the tax rate, the company has incorporated, purchased land, engaged a supervising contractor, and, under the leadership of Raymond W. Tryon, chief; Leigh Tryon, Assistant Chief; and Captains Peter S. Brown and Robert Stevens, has been building a spacious new firehouse with provision for office space, radio room, bunk room, meeting room, and kitchen, as well as three tremendous bays for equipment and training activities.

The building is energy efficient with maximum insulation, hot water heating system using either wood or oil, and a solar front made up of double overhead doors which act as solar collectors for a heat circulating system.

The design and workmanship of the building is such that it has attracted the interest of officials of other towns, and especially other fire departments in this part of the country, and enlisted the support and participation of many people in addition to department members.

In gratitude for the readiness, training, and dedication of the Monterey firemen and for the professional promptness and efficiency and the love and compassion with which they serve the emergency needs of the community, and in admiration for the imagination, enthusiasm, and tremendous effort they have shown in providing a firehouse that is a marvel to behold and a landmark in the State, Monterey Grange Number 291 gives its 1982 *Community Citizen Award* to the *Monterey Fire Department*.

— W. Raymond Ward, Secretary
Monterey Grange No. 291



DOUG BROWN
Mt. Everett School

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met August 18 for an agriculture program in charge of Ethel Warner. Susan Sellew gave an interesting talk on gardening and goat raising. In the baked goods contest Ann Vickerman won first for cherry pie, Alice Shoffer first for blueberry muffins, and Amy Enoe first for carrot bread. Baked goods were sold; \$14 was raised for the heifer fund.

In the youth contest Ethel Ketchen won first for her plant and Ray Ward for his cucumber.

There was a food sale August 21; also, the Grange will have an exhibit at the Barrington Fair.

The next meeting was September 1, when Vernon P. West, a member of the Assembly of Demitu, and suite installed the officers and presented the Community Service Award to the Monterey Fire Department. Seven members were present, as were the Board of Selectmen, Rev. Virgil Brallier, and Milly Walsh, and members from Williamsburg, Worthington, Cummington-Stockbridge, Umpachene and Great Barrington. State officers present were Deputy Alicia Brazie; Edith Wheeler, member of the Home Community Committee; Janet Martin, member of the Membership Committee; Richard West, member of the Youth Committee.

The recent food sale was a huge success and the Grange wants to thank all who helped in any way. The Fair Committee is working on the exhibit for the Great Barrington Fair. The next meeting will be September 15.

— Mary Wallace

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

At the Town Meeting on Tuesday, August 24, the town voted its approval of the revised Zoning Bylaw as proposed by the Planning Board. We are grateful to those who attended and voiced their support. Final approval by the Massachusetts Attorney General might not be forthcoming for several weeks; however, the town is able to use the new law as passed, effective August 24.

The major changes in the bylaw are as follows:

- a) clarification of wording and intent throughout;
- b) addition of a section of definitions;
- c) distinction between "uses by right" and "uses by special permit";
- d) expansion of the list of uses by special permit in the Ag-Res district to include: restaurant; power-generating facilities for sun, wind, and water; enclosed veterinary hospital; municipal and public-service buildings; display and sale of natural products raised outside of town; conversion of a single-family residence into a multi-family residence of two units without increasing lot size under certain conditions;
- e) addition of uses by special permit for the Lakeshore District, which include:
 - i) use of rooms for professional purposes, as in the Ag-Res District;
 - ii) summer camp;
- f) reduction of maximum % land coverage for lots in the Lakeshore and Ag-Res Districts from 30% to 20%;
- g) increase in minimum lot size/frontage in the Lakeshore District from ½ acre/85 feet to 1 acre/150 feet;
- h) addition of a building height limit of 35 feet for all districts;
- i) addition of a section of minimum parking requirements;
- j) addition of a hazardous waste disposal law;
- k) addition of the capability of the Board of Appeals to issue a use variance (formerly, variances were granted only with respect to sideline dimensions, etc.).

Copies of the new bylaw are available at the Town Offices; pick one up and see for yourself.

— Joe Baker

PARK COMMISSION NOTES

Mary Beth Schuler has replaced her brother, as he returned to school, as our lifeguard. She has very nice comments about the beach, the people, and the Commission.

The touch of color in the trees, school buses, and cool nights tell us the vacation season is closing. One by one we close up our summer activities — and did you know that Tammy Jervas is personally responsible for the lifeguard chair? Each winter she revarnishes and cares for it! Thank you, Tammy.

— Fran Amidon

LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Lake Garfield Association had their picnic meeting on the damsite off Beartown Road with a twofold purpose: to carry out annual business and to introduce people to this very beautiful spot, which the majority attending had never ventured to visit. One route there is by canoe or rowboat that fits into the giant 7½' tubes, cross Brewer Pond and pull up on the earth dam next to the spillway. Look inside and see how the lowering and refilling works. Pull up your motors before going through the tubes, as no motors are allowed on Brewer Pond.

Concern was expressed about motor boats' misuse on the lake, though minimal. Individuals are encouraged to speak to anyone they see going too fast, skiing without a spotter, or riding on the boat deck, and suggest they read the State boating laws. It would be appreciated, I'm sure. Broken laws can be reported to the Division of Marine and Recreational Vehicles, and, if need be, the offender's license revoked.

Weed control was discussed extensively. Pontoosuc Lake combined a five-foot drawdown with use of chemicals in selected areas for a partial success. In this, the state and town share in the funding. Aquacide, a chemical approved in all fifty states, was suggested. In three days after application, fishing and swimming are allowed.

An experiment of introducing a small weed to combat larger ones is going on at Laurel Lake. We shall watch the outcome with interest.

The Association voted to use chemicals in a small area, in a limited experiment for weed control. This must go before the town for further approval. Information on the chemical will be made available.

Lad's Beach reported use of heavy equipment last fall to remove four feet of muck and weeds at a cost of \$1,000 for a beach area of 50' x 100'. Plastic was laid and sand dumped on top. Success was good, not 100%.

Harvesting was mentioned — an expensive and cumbersome method. Stockbridge Bowl harvested this summer. Our substitute lifeguard who worked there said that shortly after the cut the weeds were worse than ever, as the plants branch out and double when cut.

Our own drawdown was fair this year. Each year is different and finds different weeds — heavy in different areas. We could draw down to the limit of eight feet rather than 5'8" if the mud and silt could be cleaned out of the old brook bed in the small lake. We shall get an estimate on this operation.

It was voted to request the Selectmen open the dam gate on October 25 and have gates remain open until February 15 (the vote was 17 to 4). This is your opportunity to roll up your sleeves and pants and get in there with shovel and rake and clean up your beach area, as well as repair your dock. Removing the muck and leaves will deter the weeds; and it also makes super fertilizer.

We are members of the Massachusetts Pond and Lake Association. Seminars and conferences occurring periodically will be announced in the *Monterey News*. For more information, see Peter Vallianos. (cont. p. 9)

B

read
Donuts
Fresh Produce
Cold cuts
Fresh Meats
Canned goods
Pet food
Soda
Cold beer
Liquor
Wine
Daily and Sunday
newspapers

M

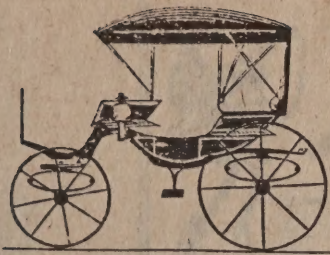
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NEXT YEAR'S TOP GRAVITATER?

FIRE COMPANY NEWS

Eight years ago in the spring a few restless upstarts gathered after a long day trying to get their old cars through inspection, and hatched the idea of a downhill race for homemade freewheeling vehicles. Bill Russell had a book of photos by the Frenchman Lartigue which included shots of turn-of-the-century hip aristocrats in Europe and *their* gravity cars in action, and out of action with bent wheels, etc. We didn't let practical matters deter us, like their idle wealth and our chaotic hand-to-mouth existence. In that first Gravity Car Grand Prix a shot from Roy Carlson's 12-gauge marked the start for each car, and Brad Wagstaff punched a stopwatch at the top of the hill, then took a fast motorcycle ride to the finish line ahead of the race vehicle. The winning time that year was a full 40 second longer than recent competitive times. The road grew grass and big rocks along the way between heats. It was unmistakable fun, and no one suffered worse than a few scrapes and bruises. The second year young Mark Ellerkmann took the chain off a 20" bicycle, went hell-bent down the hill and won. Didn't get killed. Some griped about two wheels being unfair, but courage deserves respect, so the rule evolved that brakes were allowed, and any number of wheels, but vehicles had to be largely homemade.

The race has changed since those early years. The initial looney bravado has gradually been tamed. Interest among Fire Company members (who can be pretty wild in their own way, mind you) eventually led to Fire Company sponsorship. The race became better organized and the old dirt road got to looking like a track, but we *still* have a good time.

Results this year confirm that there's more to racing than meets the eye. Third place went to Bill Russell, who hatched the plan way back when. Driving his original wood-frame four-wheeler with a seat of ballast sand, he was not even three seconds off the winning time. The DAT Racing Team entered three innovative (homemade) two-wheelers (with brakes) and Troy Jervas took second place in his. The race was won for the second consecutive year by Lanny Lanoue in his offset-seat three-wheeled tubular steel frame vehicle. He turned in a record-winning time of 56.65 seconds. Drivers of the win, place, and show cars each found his own fast track along the course over Wallace Hall Road. It's a subtle trick. The same old contest still challenges a racer's ingenuity, skill,

So with the race we put a cap (or shall we say a Derby hat?) on the summer's events. On into autumn. Work continues at the firehouse. Recently fiberglass and foam board insulation went up for a total R factor in all the walls of 24. Over that Michael and Jervais Porrier came in with their crew and put up 250 pieces of 12' sheetrock in just a few days' time. After the drywall is taped, filled, and painted, we'll get on to wainscoting in the apparatus room, meeting room and hallways. The boards are presently being cut and milled by Fire Company members at Tom Marino's Great Barrington Woodworking and at the shop where Bruce Frost (Berkshire Woodcraft) and David Paul Goldfarb work. Bruce and David joined with owner David Barrett (Berkshire Millwork) in donating shop space for the millwork, and Tom's considering a swap for some of our locust wood off the hilltop site. He'd like it for fence posts and rails, which seems to us a better use than firewood.

The result of the exam that finishes the EMT course we told you about last spring are back now. Wayne Dunlop, Maynard Forbes and Bob Stevens all passed and are now certified Emergency Medical Technicians. Donald Whitbeck has also been thoroughly trained, but he's too young by only a few weeks to take the test for certification. Our feeling is that we can depend on his training and skills any time in an emergency.

Tom Andrus, Pete Brown, Maynard Forbes, Tony Reed, Dick Sheridan, and Warren Thompson went to the Grange meeting on September 1 to accept their yearly citizenship award on behalf of the Fire Company. The meeting featured a skit on preparedness and planning that pointed up some values the Fire Company also likes to promote. The Grange also offered to donate a tree for planting at the new site when landscaping plans are complete. We are grateful for their support.

Rumors are circulating that sometime this fall the Mountain Laurel Band will play for a Firehouse Benefit Contradance to be held in the new building. Not counting your chickens before the eggs hatch is a facet of planning we believe in, but that's no reason either to squash a pleasant rumor. Keep in touch.

— Peter Murkett

Garfield Association Report, cont. from p.7.

There have been some spotty but severe problems with cans and bottles thrown carelessly in the lake. It seems to stem mostly from out-of-town boats; however, remember the extreme danger hazzard they cause. Years ago in a swim class at the beach a boy jumped into the water near shore onto an upright broken Coke bottle and nearly lost his toe.

The Association meets once or twice a year, as needed. Any interested party is welcome. A \$5.00 lifetime membership fee is all it takes. Contact any officer:

President	Dean Amidon
Vice President	Bill Ginsburg
Treasurer	Peter Vallianos
Secretary	Sherrie Colodny

LOCAL LORE

COVER CROPS

As we are busy harvesting our garden and field crops, we should consider the soil that we are leaving exposed to the harsh elements for the next six to seven months. The planting of a cover crop is an important conservation measure that should be taken by the backyard gardener as well as the larger crop farmer.

Soil erosion is perhaps the most obvious problem that cover crops help with. Our soils are being washed away at an alarming rate. Over in the Connecticut River Valley where the land is used for row crops year after year, they are losing about an inch of soil each year. Here in the hills much of our crop land is on hillsides or in low lying areas that flood easily. The roots of the cover crops help hold the soil in place; the tops help to slow down the water flow across the surface of the soil.

Nutrient loss is an equally important problem. Our often sandy soils leach nutrients rapidly. Cover crops help in three ways. They use a lot of the nutrients that would otherwise be washed away and store them in the form of plant material. Their root systems slow down the water movement over and through the soil, thus lessening the leaching. When incorporated back into the soil, cover crops increase the organic content of the soil, thus increasing its water and nutrient holding capacity.

Winter rye is perhaps the most common choice of a cover crop as it grows well in the fall, has a vigorous root system and will make good growth in the spring, giving you a generous amount of organic matter to add to your soil. Its drawback is its robust spring growth. It is often hard to deal with if you are trying to plant an early crop. Oats are an alternative. They also make good fall growth but the tops winter kill in about February, leaving you a mat of dead "grass" on the surface but the root system is still doing its job below the surface.

The usual cutoff date for planting these things is September 15. Even if you are a little behind schedule, try to get something growing on that bare soil soon.

— Susan Sellew
Rawson Brook Farm



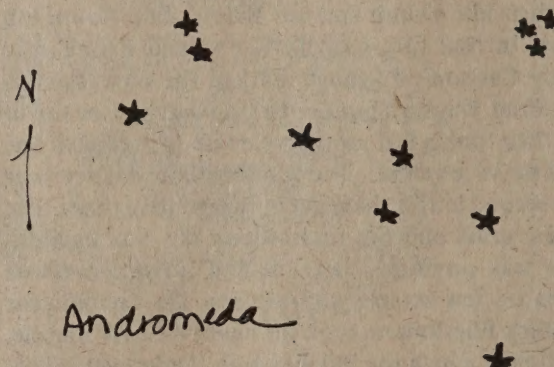
Photograph of
Susan Sellew by
Susan McAllester



HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

On Friday, September 10, the Monterey Historical Society held its fall meeting in the museum.

Polly Pierce, curator of the historical room of the Stockbridge Library, was the speaker. "The Gilded Age of the Berkshires," tales of the great mansions, their owners and the social life from 1880 until World War I, was her topic. This life style declined when income taxes and lack of cheap domestic help made it impossible to maintain the cottages, as they were called.



A CELESTIAL LOVE STORY

Once upon a time a beautiful young maiden, named Andromeda, lived with her parents, Queen Cassiopeia and King Cepheus in a country called Egypt. Andromeda's mother claimed greater beauty than the seagod Nereus' daughter. The gods were angered at such hubris, and condemned daughter Andromeda to be chained to a rock near the sea where the vile sea serpent would come and devour her. But Perseus came to her rescue on his winged horse, Pegasus. They fell in love, married and lived happily ever after.

In August Queen Cassiopeia (the big "W") and King Cepheus (the sharply gabled house) sit high in the northeast sky. Below and to the right of them comes Perseus. The winged horse Pegasus (the Great Square) flies through the southeast sky. From the left star of Pegasus hangs Andromeda, forever chained, forever awaiting her rescuer Perseus (a "K"-shaped star picture).

Try to find the Great Square and the double line of stars representing Andromeda. We'll take a closer look at this region in the sky next month.

— Loul McIntosh

LOCAL LORE



RAGWEED

Just as the lovely wild rose has its thorn and the honey bee her sting, so do the golden days of late summer bring us ragweed pollen: 250,000 tons of it every year. Many people never notice ragweed. It is an inconspicuous plant with tiny green flowers, of no special significance to most people. But for the sensitive ones, the chosen few, each ragweed plant by the roadside bring allergic discomfort which sends 15 million Americans scrambling to the drugstore for antihistamines, to the garden for herbal medicines such as basil, or to the travel agent for an ocean voyage.

The early botanist who named the ragweeds must not have been a hayfever sufferer, or perhaps he was and his miseries engendered the bitter humor which inspired the genus name *Ambrosia*. In Monterey we see *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (the second name refers to the leaves, which resemble those of the *artemisia*s or wormwoods) along roadsides or in any areas where the ground has recently been disturbed. Perhaps the only positive attribute of the ragweeds, from the point of view of an allergic person, is their ability to grow quickly on disturbed ground, thus preventing soil erosion for the first years while other vegetation becomes established.

Common Ragweed grows to a height of one to six feet and blooms in late August and early September, until the first frosts. Each ragweed plant produces five to eight billion grains of pollen. In order for the plant to reproduce and form fertile seeds, the pollen grains must travel from the male flowers where they are produced to the female flowers, carrying the male sex cell to the ovary of the female. Pollen counts are highest in the morning, and hayfever sufferers are advised to keep their windows closed, stay in bed late, and not exercise or breathe heavily during ragweed season. Each small plant produces billions of grains of pollen, but it only takes twelve grains to set off a sniffle and a series of allergic sneezes in a sensitive nose.

"Hayfever" is a misleading term for a condition involving neither hay nor fever. Doctors prefer to call it "allergic rhinitis," which conjures up an image of powerful African mammals with rashes. In fact, the disease is still a mystery to modern science. It is known that the allergic response is part of the body's antigen-antibody immune system, but why it is that some people's systems respond and others' don't is still not known. Every ragweed season 15 million Americans look up from their handkerchiefs and say, "Why me?" For some, the suffering begins in early summer with the blooming of the first trees. Tree pollen is just as powerful an antigen for them as ragweed pollen, grass pollen, house dust, or animal dander and saliva are for others. In each case, the particles are inhaled and the body responds with the production of a specific antibody. Ragweed pollen is known as "antigen E," and the antibody produced is "immunoglobulin E" or "IgE." IgE is produced in the cells of the lining of the respiratory tract, where it causes the release from other cells of *histamine*. Histamine acts upon blood vessels, nerve endings and mucous glands to cause swelling, itching and rhinitis. With recent discoveries of the specific antibodies (such as IgE), it has become possible to identify the cause of a person's sneezes by taking a blood sample to see what antibodies have been produced. If a person's blood contains no IgE, then ragweed is not the problem and a move to Hawaii (where there is no ragweed) is not necessarily indicated. For some people, a series of immunizing shots may be helpful, for others basil drinks or antihistamines. For those who have tried them all and found no relief, Oliver Wendell Holmes has given this advice: "Gravel is an effective remedy. It should be taken about eight feet deep."

INDIAN NOTES

The Stockbridge Bible

When the "Indian Town" experiment was taking place at Stockbridge, there was much interest in it from the larger religious community. Various bequests and other support came from London and Boston, including a beautiful two-volume illustrated Bible presented in 1745 by Francis Ayscough, Clerk of the Closet to his Royal Highness, Frederick, Prince of Wales. The Bible is inscribed, in part:

"To the use of the congregation of Indians, at or near Housatonic, in a vast wilderness . . . and is to remain to the use of the successors of those Indians from generation to generation as a testimony of the said Doctor's great regard for the salvation of their souls . . ."

When the Stockbridge Indians were forced to move west, they carried their treasured Bible with them, carefully preserved in an oak chest. As the community traveled from the sanctuary of one "New Stockbridge" to another, in New York, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, in each there was built a church in which the Bible was an inspiration and a reminder of the Indians' former well-wishers.

At times the Bible was in the custody of tribal leaders, and one of these entrusted the two-volume set to the safe keeping of a steel vault in the John Sergeant Memorial Church in Red Springs, Wisconsin. Eventually very few Indians were left in this congregation and most of the Stockbridge Indians had no idea where the Bible was. There were some who thought it was in the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1930, word of the Bible's whereabouts reached Mrs. Mable Choate of Stockbridge, who had moved the home-
stead of Joh Sergeant, first missionary at Stockbridge, down from Prospect Hill and restored it as an historical museum on Main Street. Mrs. Choate was collecting Stockbridge memorabilia and offered to buy the Bible and communion ware from the failing church in Red Springs. The church agreed without consulting the main body of the Stockbridge Indians.

It was not until 1951 that the James Davids family, on a trip to their ancestor's home, discovered the whereabouts of the Bible. By this time the tribe had become firmly re-established as a social body with a keen interest in their own history. A Stockbridge-Munsee Historical Library Museum was built and now houses over 4,000 documents and other cultural items. Several trips have been made by groups of Stockbridge Indians to visit their homeland and see the Mission Museum.

On August 27, 1975, the tribal chairman, Leonard E. Miller, wrote to the Trustees of Reservations, now custodians of the Mission Museum, stating the belief of the Tribal Council that the Bible had been removed illegally and requesting its return. Committees to consider the question have been formed by the Trustees and by citizens of Stockbridge concerned for the Indians' historic and legal rights; lawyers have been consulted by both sides. How the issue will be resolved remains to be seen.

— David McAllester

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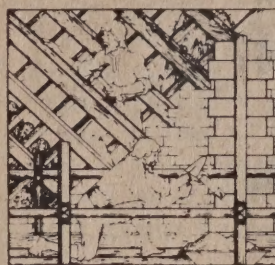
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Being a Dreamy Evening

Twas the twilight hour, and in the evening haze
The Konkaplunkers fell to their dark tasks.
The sun was spent, and now his flasks
Sent forth light squibs, no constant rays;
The world's whole sap was sunk;
Radiant a hundred dancers came, cloudy the night,
Bold music pierced the gloom, but n'ere a light;
Two rays at last dispelled the evening dew and damp;
Ray Ward brought a ladder and
Ray Tryon came up with a lamp.

Now Summer's done, nor will the Sun renew.
The dancers and musicians all had fun;
The course of summer festivals is run;
We cozily our Konkadance review.
Enjoy your winter, all.

Now I'm Donne.
The Editor.

THOUGHTS TO THE EDITOR

A few weekends ago "letting off steam" came in the form of writing my feelings. Aren't the roadsides beautiful in August? Some people think they had rather have that beauty inside their homes. All of us have picked a wildflower now and then, but mass picking spoils the beauty for everyone. This particular weekend there were several people down New Marlboro Road picking flowers by the roadside. Finally I asked them to please leave them there. They offered to give me the flowers they had picked. They explained that they were trying not to pick all the flowers from one place. I explained that probably the people who came the day before had the same idea. How many people ease their conscience with that thought in mind? I think they understood when I refused their offer of the bouquet, saying, No, God has put them in the perfect place, and that is where they should stay.

— Milly Walsh

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dump stickers for Monterey residents are available from Hans Kessler, Town Clerk Sue MacIver, and Cynthia Weber at the Town Offices.



photograph by Dale Cummings

HELP WANTED

Part-time attendant at Monterey Landfill; 18 hours a week. For full details, call Berkshire Clean-Way during business hours, 1-684-0165.



photograph of Ellen Pearson
by Susan McAlister.



The Konkaplunkers are grateful to the following, without whose help the 2nd Annual Konkadance would not have been so successful: Ray Ward, for the use of his ladder; Ray Tryon, for supplying a Fire Company spotlight; the Monterey Church, for use of their tables and chairs; and whoever it was who stopped the rain just in time for the start of the dance.

CALENDAR

Saturday, September 25—Dance for intermediate dancers at the Sheffield Grange, 8:30 p.m. Music by Mountain Laurel; Joe Baker, caller. Program: dancers' choice!

Saturday, October 2—Hootenanny at the Sheffield Grange, 8 p.m. Joe Baker, host.

Sunday, October 3—Dance Band Workshop taught by Jay Ungar at the Lenox Community Center, 12-5 p.m., followed by a potluck supper, 5:30-6:30, and a dance, 6:30-9:30, with music by the Workshop participants and calling by Joe Baker and Penelope Naumann. Sponsored by the Berkshire Country Dance and Music Society.

Saturday, October 9—Family dance, beginners and children welcome, at the Sheffield Grange, 8:30 p.m. Music by Mountain Laurel with Joe Baker, caller.

For information about any of these events, call 528-9385.

Movie Series at Simon's Rock

The Simon's Rock Film Society welcomes your membership for the 1982-83 season. This year's series, selected by students, faculty and Society members, covers a wide selection of foreign and American films. Generally the first film of the double feature is either a classic or a film considered educational or of artistic value. The second film is for general entertainment. Most directors are represented at least twice and on successive weekends. Articles and critiques will supplement the showing for some of the more difficult films.

The films are shown on Fridays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 7:00 p.m. The order of the films is reversed for the Sunday showing. Society membership will not guarantee a seat, as all seating is done on a first come, first served basis. Sunday evenings are usually less crowded. Should you have a question concerning the starting time of a specific film, please contact the school at 528-0771.

Friday, September 17—*King of Hearts*, the 1967 cult classic in which a Scottish soldier, sent to a remote area to disarm a bomb, encounters a foreign insane asylum and is embraced as its king; *Breaking Away*, Academy Award winning film about a rivalry between college students and four of the town's high school graduates. A bicycle race ensues (1979). Lecture Center, 8:00 p.m.**

Sunday, September 19—*Breaking Away* and *King of Hearts*: See September 17, above. Lecture Center, 7:00 p.m.**

Friday, September 24—Three Charlie Chaplin shorts: *A Night at the Show*, *Shanghai'd*, and *Police*, taken from the Essanay period (1915-1916), and *The Andromeda Strain*, a 1971 sci-fi film in which a team of scientists attempts to isolate deadly organisms from outer space. Lecture Center, 8:00 p.m.**

Saturday, September 25—Vaudeville Theatre: An explosive theatrical production of circus artistry and acrobatic feats will be performed by Loco-Motion Vaudeville, a four-person variety troupe. Balancing, juggling, mechanical mime, and comic situations are some of the wonders included in their repertoire. Arts and Recreation Center, 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$4.00; children 12 and under, \$2.00.

Sunday, September 26—*The Andromeda Strain* and *Chaplin Shorts*: See September 24, above. Lecture Center, 7:00 p.m.**

Friday, October 1—*The Tin Drum* and *Klute*. Lecture Center, 8:00 p.m.**

Sunday, October 3—*Klute* and *The Tin Drum*. Lecture Center, 7:00 p.m.**

Friday, October 8—*Beauty and the Beast* and *Stunt Man*. Lecture Center, 8:00 p.m.**

Sunday, October 10—*Stunt Man* and *Beauty and the Beast*. Lecture Center, 7:00 p.m.**

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

**A donation of \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 for children is requested from those without Simon's Rock Film Society membership.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

Women's Services Center will begin a daytime support group for women. Any woman who feels the need or desire to share her feelings, information, strengths, and support with other women is encouraged to call Ann at Women's Services Center, 499-2425, for intake interview. The group will be meeting Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:00, beginning September 22, 1982.

PERSONALS

At the 1982 Berkshire County 4-H Youth Fair held at the Barrington Fairgrounds on August 21, Sherri Burkholder of Monterey won a Horse Show award in Senior English Equitation. There were over 200 contestants and approximately 2,000 visitors attending.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *Monterey News* thanks the following for their contributions this month: M/M Robert Donelan; Judy Grant, Dorothy Stretch.

WANTED

Garage to rent for storage of classic car. Call weekends: 528-9498.

PLEASE NOTE:

The deadline for ads and articles to be typeset for the *Monterey News* will be the *first* of each month. For ads which are camera ready, the deadline is the *tenth* of each month. If you wish to have your ad typeset, please contact Eileen Clawson, 528-4835, for typesetting rates.

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